

**Whereas**, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those organizations and events which help to deepen and broaden our understanding of Show-Me State history and values; and

**Whereas**, on Saturday, October 4, 2003, the Cole Camp Museum in Cole Camp, Missouri, will sponsor a "Cemetery Walk" which will take place at the site of the Union-Williams Church and Cemetery located approximately three miles southwest of town; and

**Whereas**, an annual event, the Cemetery Walk will attract area participants who value an understanding of the early years of Missouri history and the trials, tribulations, and strengths of our forebears who sought freedom, independence, and democracy in the heart of this great country; and

**Whereas**, Union-Williams Church was established by a band of settlers who sought a focus for their religious and social lives and who elected a Board of Directors consisting of Isaac England, John Eastwood, Jacob Carpenter, Albert Nichols, Thomas Moon, John Jenkins, and Edward Witall; and

**Whereas**, founded on May 28, 1842, on land purchased from Ezekiel and Nancy Williams, Union-Williams Church was a loge-style building constructed adjacent to an already existing cemetery and affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal Church; and

**Whereas**, during the Civil War the Williams name was dropped and the facility was known solely as Union Church until the year 1992 when the Williams name was reinstated; and

**Whereas**, in 1904 a clapboard building was erected on the site which was dedicated on April 30, 1905, with approximately six hundred to seven hundred people in attendance; and

**Whereas**, Union-Williams Church held its last regular worship service in May 1976 under the guidance of Pastor Steven Gardner:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to commemorate the one hundred sixty-one-year-long history associated with Union-Williams Church and Cemetery located southwest of Cole Camp in Benton County, Missouri, and to convey to all of those involved this legislative body's heartiest commendation of their Cemetery Walk memorial which serves to keep alive an important part of this state's heritage; and

**Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of the Union-Williams Church and Cemetery of Cole Camp, Missouri.

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Tom Self  
District No. 116

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 4125, adopted September 18, 2003.

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Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker